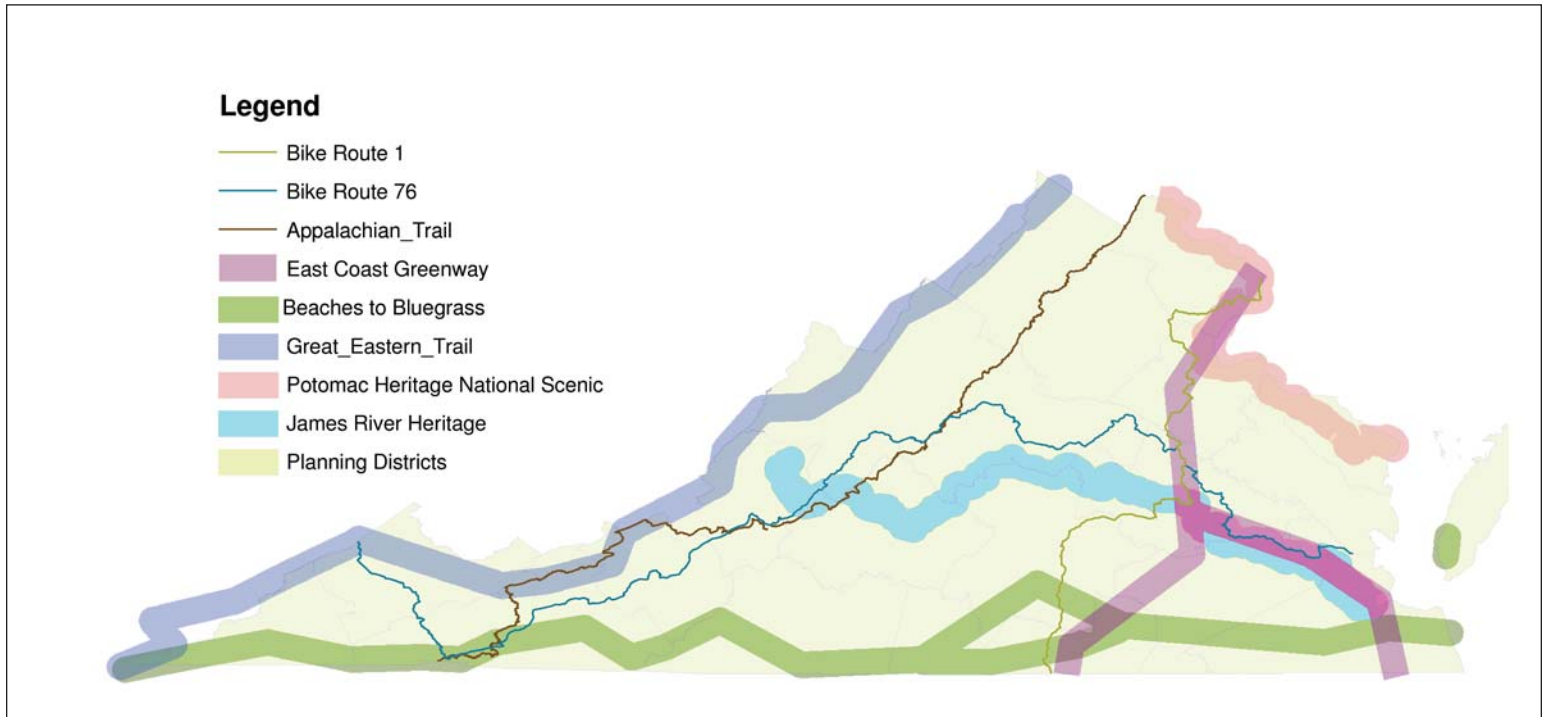


STATEWIDE PROPOSED AND EXISTING TRAILS



Virginia Trail Plan



Bicyclists enjoy the scenery along the Virginia Capital Trail near Jamestown Settlement. This trail, like many others, is used for both transportation and recreation. Photo courtesy of Allen Turnbull.

In response to the growing demand for trails and for related coordination and technical assistance, the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation established a Greenways and Trails Task Force to develop a statewide trail plan. One of their first tasks will be shaping the vision for a coordinated network of statewide trails that will form the framework for connecting regional and community trails. The following goals are guiding the development of an action plan to advance the network:

GOAL 1

Enhance access to the outdoors through the development of a trails network that promotes healthy recreation and connects citizens, including children and families, to Virginia's diverse open space and natural landscapes.

GOAL 2

Improve linkages between communities and key tourist destinations in both rural and urban areas to promote regional outdoor recreation and heritage tourism initiatives, support local economies, and provide economic stimuli for small business start-ups and entrepreneurial expansion.

GOAL 3

Create the foundation of a statewide system of interconnected open space corridors through which trails traverse, in order to support long-term protection of Virginia's "green infrastructure" and the ecological services it provides.

AUTHORITY LEGISLATION

Legislation passed in 1972 authorized DCR to establish and administer a state-wide system of non-motorized, scenic, recreational and connecting side trails.
§ 10.1-204



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION TRAILS PROGRAM

MISSION

Provide assistance and education to encourage the development, maintenance and promotion of attractive, sustainable and connected trails throughout the state.

VISION

Active communities and open space linked by trails and greenways that connect individuals, children and their families to nature and to each other.

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GOAL 4

Integrate trails as a critical component in Virginia's transportation infrastructure, in order to provide efficient and convenient non-motorized connections to neighborhoods, schools, community facilities, and employment centers.

GOAL 5

Educate citizens about the trail network's social, ecological, transportation, and wellness benefits, and foster educational pursuits through environmental research, multi-cultural programs, and "outdoor classrooms."

Additional information on the trail network has been included in the attached fact sheets. The printing costs were partially covered by the Federal Highway Administration's Recreational Trails Program funds.

The Greenways and Trails Task Force

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